

Published Agenda



**Monday, April 21, 2025
4:00 PM**

**City Council
Monday Meeting Agenda**

**Council Chambers
200 Forrest Street**

**Call to Order
Agenda Review
Citizens' Forum
Meeting Recess**

Call to Order

BE IT REMEMBERED that the **Agenda Review meeting of the Hattiesburg City Council** was held at **4:00 p.m. Monday, April 21, 2025**, in Council Chambers at City Hall; same being from an adjourned meeting held on April 8, 2025.

Those present included Mayor Toby Barker and members of the City Council Jeffrey George, Ward 1; Deborah Delgado, Ward 2; Carter Carroll, Ward 3; Dave Ware, Ward 4; and Nicholas Brown, Ward 5 (via teleconference). Others in attendance included Director of Administration/City Clerk, Kermas Eaton; City Attorney, Randy Pope; Clerk of Council, Ronda S. Kennedy; City staff members; media; and the public.

Absent: Deputy Clerk of Council, Lisa Luu Jolly.

Council President George **Called the meeting to order.**

Agenda Review

Council President George proceeded with the **Agenda Review**.

Following discussion of agenda items, Council President George **closed the Agenda Review**.

Citizens' Forum

Council Vice President Ware proceeded with the Citizens' Forum.

He stated the procedures and invited members of the public to speak.

The following citizens addressed the Council:

- *Virginia Smith, 200 Tuscan Ave., Apt. A*
- *Murph & Erin Little, 229 S. 23rd Ave.*

There were no other citizens present who wished to address the Council.

Council Vice President Ware **closed the Citizen Forum**.

Executive Session

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Ware for the Council to **ENTER CLOSED SESSION TO DETERMINE THE NEED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 4:25 p.m.

There being no discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

Yeas: 5 - George, Delgado, Carroll, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

Council President George asked for the Chambers to be cleared at this time.

Council Member Brown *disconnected via teleconference* at 4:25 p.m.

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Ware and seconded by Council Member Carroll to **ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION** to discuss litigation strategy, since to have an open meeting on this would have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the City, in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (b) at 4:26 p.m.

There being no discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

Yeas: 4 - George, Delgado, Carroll and Ware

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Brown

The City Attorney stepped out into the hall and announced that the Council has gone into Executive Session to discuss *litigation strategy*.

Those present for the Executive Session were Mayor Toby Barker; Council members Jeffrey George, Deborah Delgado, Carter Carroll and Dave Ware; Director of Administration/City Clerk, Kermas Eaton; City Attorney, Randy Pope; Chief Administrative Officer, Ann Jones; Chief Financial Officer, Malcolm Berch; Police Chief, Hardy Sims; Fire Assistant Chief, Chris Carr; City Engineer, Marybeth Bergin; Director of Urban Development, Wiley Quinn; Director of the Water Department, Alan Howe; Director of Parks and Recreation, Betsy Mercier; Director of Public Works, Ronnie Perkins; Chief Communications Officer, John Arender; Clerk of Council, Ronda Kennedy; and Attorney John Scanlon from Pyle, Mills, Dye and Pittman Attorneys at Law and Attorney Chad Mask.

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Ware and seconded by Council Member Carroll exit Executive Session and **RE-OPEN** the meeting to the public at 4:38 p.m.

There being no discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

Yeas: 4 - George, Delgado, Carroll and Ware

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Brown

Council President George stated to the public that there was *no action* taken during Executive Session.

Meeting Recess

Council President George declared the meeting recessed at 4:39 p.m., this 21st day of April 2025, by unanimous consent, until the 22nd day of April 2025.

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

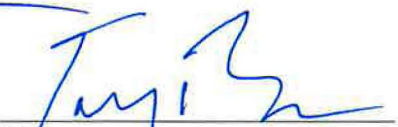

Clerk of Council


Council President

ATTEST AND CERTIFY:

APPROVE:


City Clerk


Mayor